



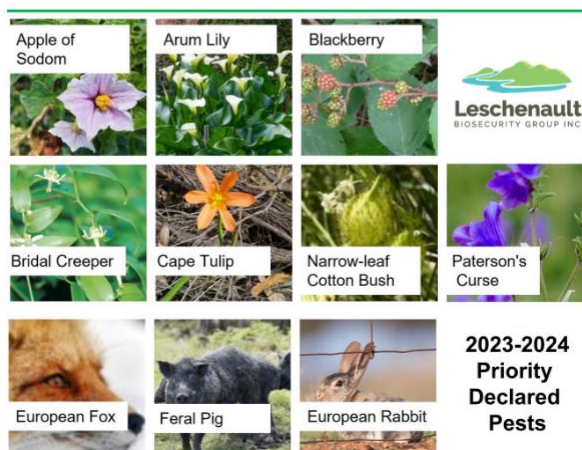
Leschenault

BIOSECURITY GROUP INC.

YOUR LAND
YOUR FUTURE

OPERATIONAL PLAN

2023 - 2024





YOUR LAND
YOUR FUTURE

Leschenault Biosecurity Group
2023-2024 Operational Plan
Table of Contents

<u>SECTION</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
1. Introduction	2
2. Purpose & Objective	3
3. Background	7
4. Our Board	8
5. Our Stakeholders	9
6. Funding	10
7. Proposed Budget	11
8. Program Focus	12
9. Planned Pest Management Programs	13
10. Community Consultation Timeline	20
11. Communications Strategy	22

1. INTRODUCTION

The Leschenault Biosecurity Group Inc. (LBG) is a community-run Not-For-Profit group operating in the Shires of Capel, Dardanup, the northern half of Donnybrook-Balingup and the City of Bunbury. The LBG offices are in Donnybrook and all operations are coordinated from this site.

The LBG takes a positive and proactive approach to facilitating declared pest management and is focused on increasing community awareness of declared pests and their management; and on achieving on-ground outcomes to compliment the great work many individual landholders are already doing.

Our priority declared pest focus for 2023 – 2024 is as presented below:



Priority Focus on Declared Pests with Flexibility to Address Other Concerns

As we are funded directly through the Declared Pest Rate (DPR) our priority must be on declared pests across the operational area, however, we will respond to requests from landowners for assistance with other pests.

2. PURPOSE & OBJECTIVES

The LBG has defined its purpose as:

- Collaborating with landowners/managers and the broader community to achieve a significant reduction in the impact of pests across our region.

Collaborating is about bringing together the unique capabilities of our landowners/managers', the LBG Board, partnership agencies, friends and networks, the community and private sectors.

We combine everyone's efforts with our own for a greater collective impact.

Objective

Our stated aim is to work collaboratively with landowners/managers to tackle the increasing spread of pests (both animals and plants) and develop strategies to significantly reduce the impact of these pests on the economy and the environment, on both a landscape and regional level

The LBG responsibilities are determined by the Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Act WA 2007 (BAM Act) and priorities are determined through landowner consultation. Our work is additionally supported by our colleagues at the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD).

Strengthening our partnerships with landowners/managers and the broader community is core to achieving our overall objective to increase participation in on-ground pest management activities.

Our Values:

COURAGE

We understand that doing what is right is not always what is easy. And that to achieve something new, we must be willing to do what we have never done before.

RESPECT

We treat everyone with dignity and fairness. We recognise contribution and value diversity.

EMPATHY

We extend ourselves to understand other people's perspectives. We communicate and act in a respectful way that makes sense to others.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We are individually accountable and collectively responsible. Our actions are transparent and open to scrutiny and we will uphold our values with honesty and integrity.

Our planned actions to achieve our aims are presented on the following pages.

As we continue to deliver our planned programs and projects, we will also:

1. Further/Continue to develop tools and strategies to measure outcomes, effectiveness and impact of our on-ground programs
2. Provide concise audited financial reports to DPIRD
3. Accurately capture all relevant data including:
 - Number of engagements (including contact details)
 - Details of individuals and community groups engaged with K5 program
 - Details of individuals and community groups engaged with HOGGONE program
 - Mapping and logging of all field activities.
4. Continue to provide feedback opportunities to participate in all programs/services as a continuous improvement program.
5. Engaging with rate payers to determine community driven priorities through:
 - Social Media
 - Community Radio
 - Print Media
 - Workshops
 - Direct contact
 - Newsletter
 - Peer organisation collaboration
6. Increase training, resources and educational opportunities for rate payers in pest management.
7. Provide timely and accurate information electronically to ratepayers to increase outcomes in pest control.
8. Collaborate and support other stakeholders with pest management projects.
9. Where a landholder is unable to control either
10. Declared Weeds or Vertebrate pests on their property, the LBG can assist with staff, equipment, expertise & or contractors when approached.
11. The value of our programs to the communities we service will be measured in terms of:
 - Participation from ratepayers,
 - Feedback from ratepayers
 - A decrease in repeat pest reports
 - Number of engagements from ratepayers seeking assistance from LBG
 - Number of social media interactions
 - Contribution to the body of knowledge by supporting research across the operational area.

Objectives of the LBG 2023 -2024 Operational Plan

The aims of the LBG 2023-2024 Operational Plan are to:

- Provide a road map for our service direction and service delivery for the 2023-2024 operational year
- Reduce the severity and occurrences of our focus declared pests across the LBG operational area.

Objectives of the LBG Rules of Association:

Excerpt from updated document ratified 23 November 2022)

b) The objects of the Association are:

To play a key role in assisting landholders and managers within the Leschenault Biosecurity Group Inc. (LBG) Operational Area to meet their responsibility, under the Biosecurity and Agricultural Management Act (2007), to reduce the impact of Declared Plant and Animal Pests on their land, with the aim that Declared Pests should be controlled to minimise economic, environmental or social impact on LBG's Operational Area, and that all landholders and managers across tenure, adopt pest control activities to meet this objective.

As a shared responsibility and integral part of land management, this objective is to be achieved by:

- c) Community engagement and consultation;
- d) Working collaboratively and maintaining effective partnerships with all parties across tenure responsible for pest management across the region;
- e) Continuing to work closely with the recognised state authority(ies);
- f) Supporting and resourcing communities to engage in active management and control;
- g) Seeking funding through the raising of a Declared Pest Rate (DPR) to implement annual Operational Plans that reflect the Declared Pest priorities of the community. Seeking additional funding from other sources when necessary;
- h) Using effective governance and best practice principles;
- i) Seeking, sharing and supporting scientific advances and research;
- j) Remaining vigilant to new pest and disease threats;

-
- k) Mapping and monitoring pests;
 - l) Promoting and facilitating community and industry reporting of pests;
 - m) Equipping the community with the ability to identify declared weeds;
 - n) Reducing the impact of exotic vertebrate pests and zoonotic disease
 - o) The 'LBG Operational Area' is defined as the municipal districts (or part thereof) in which Leschenault Biosecurity Group Inc. is recognised by the Minister for Agriculture as a Biosecurity Group for the purposes of Section 1698 of the Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act (2007); and
 - p) "The Community" is defined as landholders and land managers within the LBG Operational Area.

3. BACKGROUND

The LBG commenced operations in 2014 with a group of committed and dedicated volunteers who managed all programs. In September 2019, the Declared Pest Rate was raised for the first (1st) time across the LBG operational area. The LBG operates with a volunteer Board and four (4) part time staff members.

The LBG became a Recognised Biosecurity Group (RBG) in 2019. This enabled the group to engage with government and work collaboratively utilising the shared responsibility funding model for declared pest management.

The group established our Donnybrook office in January 2021.

Our office provides for:

- a physical space to store equipment and other resources that can be made available for ratepayers in our operational area.
- efficient and secure on-site facilities to store and mix pest management controls.
- A space to have demonstrations, workshops or other activities that may be helpful to landholders.



Our office is located at 18302 South Western Highway, Donnybrook

Having an office space also allows our team members to be more accessible to each other, providing for efficient and timely sharing of information and insight into status of programs, priorities and other activities to best support our landholders' needs.

4. OUR BOARD

LBG is led by a board of volunteer members representing the community who provide a diverse range of knowledge and experience for guidance and support of the group for our operations to address biosecurity issues affecting the environment, industry, agriculture, and lifestyle across our operational area.



*LBG Board Members left to right:
Morrie Goodz, Sarah Forrest, Scott
Bartholomew, Sherry Davis, Alexis Davis,
Terry Mondy and Peter Bass
(not pictured, S. Blechynden, P. Cook, J. Ross)*

Leschenault Biosecurity Group Board members as confirmed December 2022:

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Role</u>	<u>Location</u>
Morrie Goodz	Chairperson	Argyle
Scott Bartholomew	Vice Chairperson	Lowden
Sarah Forrest	Secretary	Lowden
Alexis Davey	Treasurer	Beelerup
Sheree Blechynden	Member	Wellington Mills
Pep Cook	Member	Noggerup
John Ross	Member	Brazier
Terry Mondy	Expert Member	Australind

Sherry Thomas and Peter Bass will retire as of 31 December 2022 after serving their full terms. Their contributions were greatly appreciated, with special thanks to Sherry for serving as LBG Treasurer for three years.

5. OUR STAKEHOLDERS

LBG advocates for cross barrier pest management by working with numerous stakeholders towards the common goal of pest management. Collaboration among our diverse stakeholders is the most effective way to combat the increasing spread of pests (both animals and plants) and develop strategies to significantly reduce the impact of these pests on our communities, our region, and our state.

Our stakeholders include:

- Landholders within our Operational Area
- Local Government Authorities (LGAs)
 - City of Bunbury
 - Shire of Capel
 - Shire of Dardanup
 - Shire of Donnybrook Balingup
- State Government Agencies:
 - Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD)
 - Department of Biodiversity Conservations and Attractions (DBCA)
 - Department of Health (DoH)
 - Department of Communities (DoC)
 - Forest Products Commission (FPC)
 - Southwest Development Commission (SWDC)
 - Main Roads Western Australia (MRWA)
 - Department of Water Environmental Regulation (DWER)
- Other Stakeholders:
 - Western Australian Plantation Resources (WAPRes)
 - Arc Infrastructure
 - Wespine
 - South West Catchment's Council (SWCC)
 - Leschenault Catchment Council (LCC)
 - Geographe Catchment Council (GeoCatch)
 - Local Pest & Weed Operators
 - South West Alliance of Recognised Biosecurity Groups
 - Recognised Biosecurity Groups (RBGs)
 - Other peer organisations

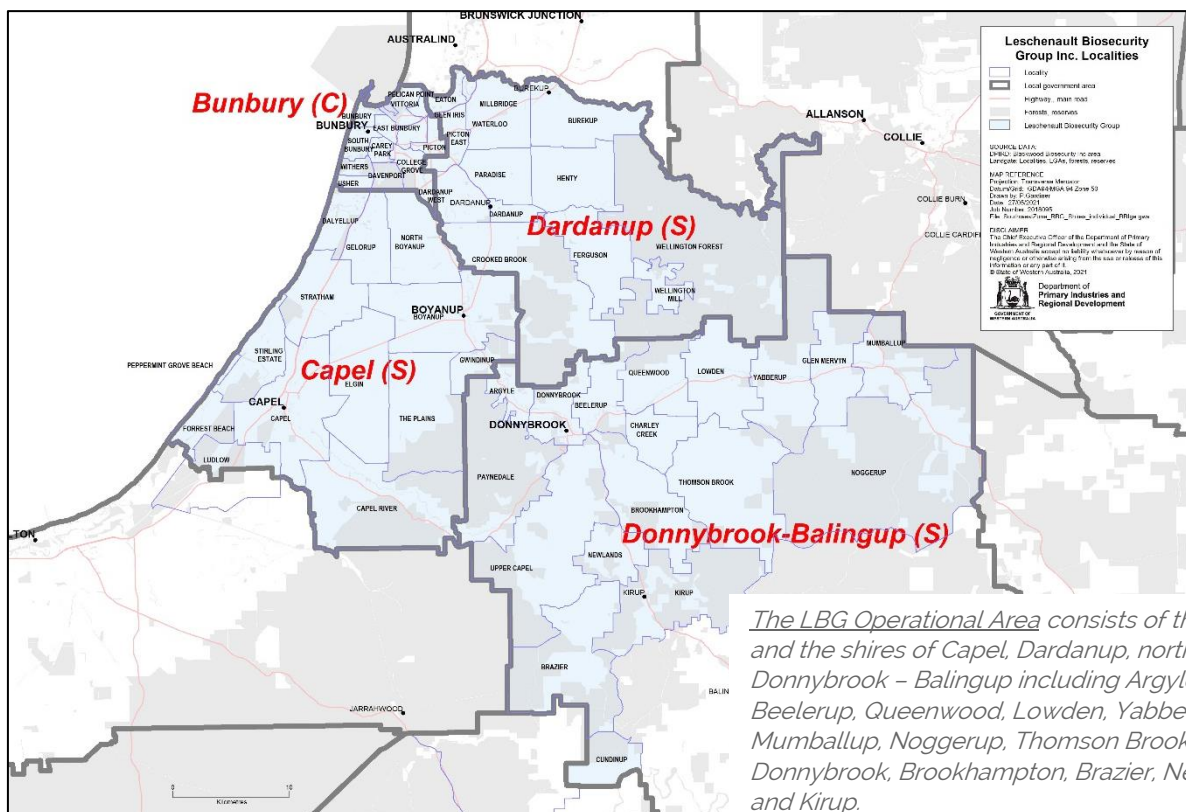
6. FUNDING

The LBG operations are sustained utilising the shared responsibility funding model for declared pest management. Landowners pay a set annual DPR which is matched dollar for dollar by the state government.

Flat Rate (Fixed Sum):

LBG recommends that the Minister for Agriculture and Food as per the BAM Act determines a flat rate, with a 4.9% increase for the 2023-2024 Financial Year (to maintain touch with CPI), on freehold land within our operational area, including the City of Bunbury and Shires of Dardanup, Capel, and Donnybrook (northern half) for the financial year commencing 1st July 2023 as follows:

- a) minimum land size above one (1) hectare,
- b) minimum declared pest rate* payable amount of:
 - \$49.50 (forty-nine dollars and fifty cents) for landholding of one to (1-10) ten hectares
 - \$63.05 (sixty-three dollars and five cents) for landholdings above (10) ten hectares



The LBG Operational Area consists of the City of Bunbury and the shires of Capel, Dardanup, northern parts of Donnybrook – Balingup including Argyle, Paynedale, Beelerup, Queenwood, Lowden, Yabberup, Glen Mervyn, Mumballup, Noggerup, Thomson Brook, Charley Creek, Donnybrook, Brookhampton, Brazier, Newlands, Upper Capel and Kirup.

7. PROPOSED 2023-2024 OPERATIONAL BUDGET

This budget is proposed for the purposes of the control of declared pests on land in the Local Government Areas of Bunbury, Capel, Dardanup, and the northern half of Donnybrook-Balingup.

As with the proposed activities presented on previous pages, this budget may be altered based on actual Declared Pest Account funds raised through payment of the DPR and matching government funding, community feedback, climatic/weather variations and their impact on pest populations, and the needs of our stakeholders throughout the operational year. The budget is currently set on 9 project pillars representing a spread across the main declared vertebrate pests and weeds.

A detailed breakdown of our proposed budget is presented below:

Operational Plan 2023-2024 Proposed Budget										
Expense Details	Admin & Govern	Arum Lily	Blackberries	Cotton Bush	Other Weeds	Foxes	Pigs	Rabbits	Other Vertebrates	TOTALS
Accounting/Bookkeeping Fees	\$1700.00	\$1700.00	\$1700.00	\$1700.00	\$1700.00	\$1700.00	\$1700.00	\$1700.00	\$1000.00	\$14,600.00
Advertising & Marketing	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$2,100.00
Audit	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$550.00	\$200.00	\$4,600.00
Bank Fees	\$35.30	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35.30
Chair - Approved Travel	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Conferences & Workshops - Attended by LBG	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$1,600.00
Conferences & Workshops - Delivered by LBG	\$500.00	\$1000.00	\$1000.00	\$1000.00	\$1000.00	\$1000.00	\$1000.00	\$1000.00	\$0.00	\$7,500.00
Computer (Equipment) Hardware	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Computer Software/Licenses	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Computer Support/Maintenance	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Computer Training	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Computer Web Development	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Freight & Courier	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
General Expenses	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$450.00
Insurance	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$5,400.00
Light, Power, Heating	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$9,000.00
Meetings - External	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Meetings - Internal	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Motor Vehicle Expenses	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$3,200.00
Office Equipment	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Office Expenses	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Postage	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$80.00
Rent	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00	\$0.00	\$18,000.00
Repairs and Maintenance	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Stationery	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Subcontractor	\$0.00	\$4000.00	\$4000.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$28,000.00
Subscriptions	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$80.00
Superannuation	\$3000.00	\$3000.00	\$3000.00	\$3000.00	\$3000.00	\$3000.00	\$3000.00	\$3000.00	\$3000.00	\$27,000.00
Telephone & Internet	\$575.00	\$575.00	\$575.00	\$575.00	\$575.00	\$575.00	\$575.00	\$575.00	\$200.00	\$4,800.00
Tools & Equipment	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$1,050.00
Uniforms	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Wages and Salaries	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$225,000.00
Wages - Travel Allowance	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00
Weeds & Animals Inputs	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00	\$6,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$0.00	\$27,500.00
Sub Totals	\$37,080.30	\$43,995.00	\$43,995.00	\$42,995.00	\$41,995.00	\$44,495.00	\$48,995.00	\$54,995.00	\$31,050.00	\$389,595.30

8. PROGRAM FOCUS 2023 – 2024

RBG's have a unique set of challenges, and with them comes some exceptional opportunities. As part of the Strategic Plan for LBG, the organisation will focus their efforts in following areas.

- We will support landowners/managers to uphold their responsibilities to minimise the impact of pests;
- We will develop larger scale projects to assist in the ongoing management of pests;
- We will work tirelessly to ensure our stakeholders have access to contemporary, evidence-based methods to manage pests;
- We will share relevant and timely information to our stakeholders;
- We will maintain systems to keep our landowners/managers abreast of new incursions; and
- We will continue to build capacity.

An overview of planned pest management programs for this financial year are presented on a table on the following page.

2023-2024 PLANNED PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS			
Leschenault Biosecurity Group			
PEST PROGRAM	ACTIONS	INPUT	MEASUREMENT
Apple of Sodom	Pest Management advice and assistance	-LBG Staff -LBG Equipment and Resources Feedback Forms	Number of participants Feedback from participants
Arum Lily	Arum Lily Control Project	-LBG Staff -LBG Contractor -Herbicide and additives	Participation and Feedback Educate stakeholders Collaborative response
Blackberry	Blackberry Control Project	-LBG Staff -LBG Contractor -Herbicide and additives	Participation and Feedback Continual and increased effort in the control blackberry
Feral Pigs	Feral Pig Control Research & Development	LBG Staff Providing HOGGONE baits & boxes	Participation and Feedback Reduction in Pig Activity Number of participants
Rabbit	K5 (or new strain if applicable) release	-LBG Staff -LBG Contractor -Virus -Oats -4 x Community Workshops	Participation and Feedback Decrease in rabbits
All declared pests	Pest Management Assistance	-Traps -PPE - Knapsacks -Tree poppers -Hog Hopper Boxes	Participation and Feedback Reduction in Declared Pests Educate stakeholders Current and relevant information gathered
All declared pests	Community Training/ Education Workshops	-LBG Staff -4 x Community Workshops	Number of participants Current and relevant information gathered
All declared pests	Assist Community groups to undertake pest management	-LBG Staff -LBG Equipment -Feedback forms	Number of participants Feedback from participants
All Declared Pests	Community Action Group Assistance	-LBG Staff -LBG Equipment	Participation
All Pests	Develop Online resources/training	-LBG Staff -Camera -Editing software	Website Statistics Feedback from stakeholders
All Weeds	Integrated Weed Management Plan Preparation	-LBG Staff - GPS/Mapping device and software	Participation and Feedback Reduction in weeds Ongoing efforts from stakeholders
All Weeds	School Incursion Program	-LBG Staff -LBG Equipment	Feedback from teachers

9. PLANNED PROGRAMS 2023-2024 IMPLEMENTATION

This section presents an overview of the implementation of our planned programs in order as follows:

- Introduction
- Stakeholder Engagement
 - Events
 - Projects
 - Workshops

Introduction

We continue to operate under guidance from the Leschenault Biosecurity Group Strategic Plan 2020-2023, (we are in the process of reviewing our 2023 – 2026 strategic plan, with this to be issued in 2023, as the 2023-2026 plan). This plan identifies the organisation's purpose as to coordinate, educate, facilitate, and collaborate. It highlights LBG's values of courage, respect, empathy, and accountability.

The Executive Officer provides direction and allocates resources for the effective development and implementation of strategic initiatives that support the five areas of focus for the group's actions as outlined in the Strategic plan, including to:

1. Support landowners/managers to uphold their responsibilities to minimise the impact of pests.
2. Develop larger scale projects to assist in the ongoing management of pests.
3. Work tirelessly to ensure our stakeholders have access to contemporary, evidence-based methods to manage pests.
4. Share relevant and timely information to our stakeholders.
5. Maintain systems to keep our landowners/managers abreast of new incursions.

A core initiative being developed for our new Strategic plan is Building Capacity.



Stakeholder Engagement

Facilitating and achieving meaningful stakeholder engagement is an essential component of our operational plan. Effective engagement promotes the development of positive and collaborative working relationships between stakeholders for effective pest management across our operational area. Stakeholder engagement is embedded into the group's everyday activities through various methods of interaction to best reach our diverse stakeholders.

Our methods for engagement with our stakeholders include:

- Team accessibility to stakeholders by phone, e-mail and face-to-face
- Expert advice and related resources at events and publications
- Face-to-face participation at community events, including markets
- Educational and informational workshops on varied topics, such as weeds identification and advice, rabbit control and others as applicable to stakeholders
- Expert advice shared from industry professionals through events and publications
- Online resources and advice
- Pest identification guidance and advice
- Social media outreach
- Publications in local newspapers and other forums
- Pest reports' validation, mapping and reporting to compliance programs
- Loan of pest control equipment, such as e.g., traps, HOGGONE boxes, weed wiper, Quik Spray Unit, smokers etc
- Coordinated pest control programs, such as K5 rabbit control virus release
- Subsidised training and licensing of select pest control methods
- On-ground assistance and pest management advice, including site visits
- Initiation of a Student Traineeship Program

The following pages presents an overview of planned community engagement activities during the 2023-2024 in order as follows:

1. Community Events (Markets, Festivals, and other Engagement Opportunities)
2. Projects/Programs
3. Workshops

1. Community Events (Markets, Festivals, and other Engagement Opportunities)

Participation in local community markets, festivals and other events is an important part of our operational plan, providing valuable direct interaction with community members.

Through these events, we will:

- actively seek community feedback regarding landowner's pest management priorities and concerns to better enable us to support landowners with directly
- applicable guidance, resources, and programs to meet their needs,
- promote awareness of the importance of effective management of declared pests and related responsibilities, available resources, knowledge, and guidance.



Participation in community events is a core component of our stakeholder engagement providing great opportunity to share information about pest management priorities, challenges, successes, guidance and available resources.

Other Engagement Opportunities

We will actively seek and create opportunities to have meaningful engagement with our diverse stakeholders, including:

- Workshops on Varied Topics in response to Community Feedback
- Participation in Pest Management Meetings/Forums with Local and State Regulatory Entities
- Participation in and Support of Peer Organisations Pest Management & Related Programs/Events
- Building Capacity will be part of our engagement process for both the organisation and the community to better understand our roles and responsibilities in the safe management and control of pests.

NOTE: Please see our *Community Consultation Timeline* presented under section 10 of this document for listings of some of the community events and other engagement opportunities in which we plan to participate.

2. Projects/Programs

Some of our planned pest management initiatives for 2023-2024 include:

- Arum Lily Control Project
- Blackberry Management Program
- Bridal Creeper Control Project
- Cotton Bush Control Project
- Feral Pig Management Program
- Fox Control Program
- Rabbit Control Project
- Management of Emerging pests such as Cleavers and Pokeweed
- We have (as a result of lobbying by landowners) requested Mediterranean Fruit Fly be a Declared Pest within our Operational area.
- Others to be determined as applicable to on-going community priorities

Highlights of two of our projects are presented on the following pages in order as follows:

1. Rabbit Control Calicivirus RHDV1-K5 Release Project
2. Feral Pig Management Initiatives - HOGGONE® Project

1. Rabbit Control Calicivirus RHDV1-K5 Release Project

We have adopted Calicivirus RHDV1-K5 releases as an important component of our overall rabbit control efforts. This program enjoys high volume participation by landholders across our operational area.



LBG encourages and promotes wide participation in our Calicivirus RHDV1 K5 Release program.

The program is implemented in the following phases:

- Promotion for Expressions of Interest to Participate
- Series of Information Sessions Across Operational Area
- Participation Registration Confirmation
- Series of Communications to Participants throughout with Progress Updates
- Landholder Participation in Prefeed Process
- Delivery of Inoculated Oats on "Release" Dates
- Follow-up with Participants

Rabbits reproduce very effectively, and complete elimination of rabbits is close to impossible. With community members working together, significant decrease in numbers can be achieved. To optimise control of feral rabbits, a combination of control tools and methods, such as targeted releases of Calicivirus RHDV1-K5, strategic fencing, cleaning rubble and wood piles that may be used as refuge and tree protection are advised. Landholders across our operational area have embraced participation in this program.

2. Feral Pig Management Initiatives - HOGGONE® Project



Feral pigs captured on surveillance cameras at one of LBG's HOGGONE installations.

Since late 2020, the LBG has enjoyed significant success utilising the HOGGONE® Feral Pig Control System. This system uses Sodium Nitrite as a poison to ethically control Feral Pigs which is presented in a way that heavily reduces potential off-target poisoning to other fauna. Additionally, use of this system does not require licences or registered training for landholders to use on their property.

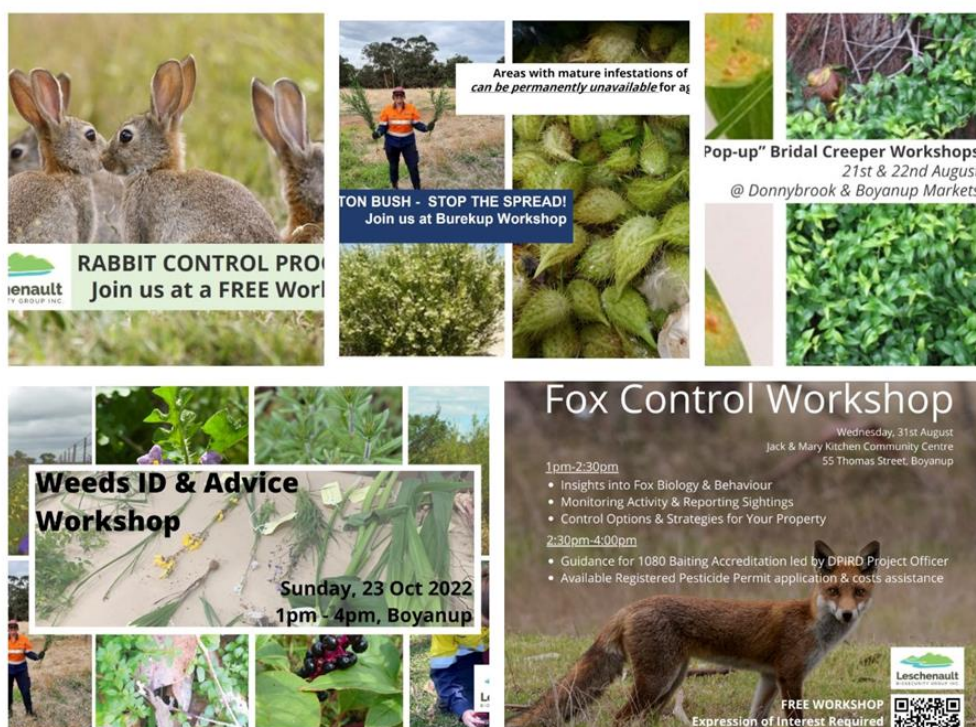
Collaborating with local landholders in Shires of Dardanup and Donnybrook-Balingup in trialling this system, the group has found it to be a highly effective and cost-efficient method of feral pig control. To quote one participating landholder, "It's very difficult to have any method that gets all of the pigs on your property in one go: a rare event. The beauty of this system is that once you get them to eat from these boxes, it's 100% effective for all of them."

The LBG works closely with the Feral Pig team at DPIRD with the aim of sharing information, knowledge and best practice. We also plan to maintain our participation with WA Feral Pig Advisory Group and other like-minded peer agencies and groups. We also liaise with the National Feral Pig Advisory Group to share knowledge, be across latest research and techniques and to promote Feral Pig management across our Operational area. We continue to learn about effective strategies for use of this system, with each installation providing useful feedback to DPIRD, peer organisations and other stakeholders.

3. Workshops

Community workshops will be focused on priority pest management needs, with topics, locations, and formats to be guided by and flexible to feedback received from our - landholders. Some of our planned workshops include:

- Bridal Creeper Workshops
- Weed Education & Awareness Workshops
- Options for Optimal Pest Management and Process Selection Workshops
- Calicivirus RHDV1 K5 Rabbit Control Workshops
- Pest Management Equipment & Tools User Information Workshops
- Other as may be applicable to community requests



LBG conducts community workshops across our operational area to share information relevant to pest management within our operational area.

10.COMMUNITY CONSULTATION TIMELINE

The following page presents a table of planned activities to provide for opportunities for direct engagement with community members, to share and receive information regarding pest management priorities, concerns, suggestions and other feedback.

11. COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

LBG strives to maintain accessible, timely, pertinent and transparent communications with our stakeholders. Facilitating and achieving meaningful stakeholder engagement is an essential component of our operational plan. LBG will strive to provide effective and relevant communications to promote, support and facilitate effective pest management across our operational area. Stakeholder engagement is embedded in the group's daily activities through various methods of interaction to best reach diverse stakeholders. Our Communications Strategy for 2023-2024 is summarised in a table provided on page 22 of this document.

Leschenault Biosecurity Group 2023 – 2024 Community Consultation Timeline			
Month	Planned Activity	Medium	Purpose
July 2023	Fox Control Promotion Feral Pig Control Promotion Winter Weeds Control	- E-Newsletter - Social Media - LBG Website - Media Releases	- Promote awareness of pest management needs and resources available for assistance - Education regarding Seasonal Weeds Impact & Control
August 2023	Declared Pest Rate Focus Winter Weeds Control Participate in Local Markets	- E-Newsletter - Posters - LBG Website - Media Release - Social Media	- Provide information to stakeholders regarding DPR purpose, benefit and to address raised concerns, priorities - Education regarding Seasonal Weeds impact & control
September 2023	Participate in Local Markets Promote Arum Lily Control	- Face to Face - E-Newsletter - LBG Website - Posters - Social Media	- Feedback from and information to Community stakeholders to understand priorities & promote awareness of related resources - Education regarding Arum Lily impact & control
October 2023	Participate in Local Markets Dardanup Bull & Barrel Festival The Brunswick Show Annual General Meeting	- Face to face (stall) - E-Newsletter - Media Release - Social Media	- Collect information on community priorities/concerns - Promotion of available resources
November 2023	Biosecurity Blitz (DPIRD) Donnybrook Food & Wine Festival Rabbit Control Workshops	- Face to Face - E-Newsletter - Posters - Social Media	- Reporting of pests within the operational area - Collect information on community priorities/concerns - Education & Registration for Calicivirus Release Program
December 2023	Rabbit Control Workshops	- Community discussion	- Feedback on past and current programs
January 2024	Begin K5 Calicivirus release	- E-Newsletter - Social Media - Print Media	- Engagement with landholders registered for participation in program - Continued promotion for additional participation - Program information workshops
February 2024	Attend local markets	- Face to face (stall) - E-Newsletter	- Share and collect information with and from community members
March 2024	Attend local markets Captive Capel	- Face to face (stall) - E-Newsletter	- Share and collect information with and from community members
April 2024	Balingup Farm Field Day Donnybrook Apple Festival Donnybrook Food & Wine Festival	- Activation and stall at the Balingup Farm Field Day in Balingup and Apple Festival in Donnybrook	- Share and collect information with and from community members - Promote awareness of LBG purpose and benefits to communities within our operational area
May 2024	Attend local markets	- Face to face	- Share and collect information with and from community members
June 2024	Winter Weeds Workshops Tell Us Your Priorities	- E-Newsletter - Social Media - Media Releases	- Arum Lily impact & control information - Share and collect information with and from community members

10.COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

Leschenault Biosecurity Group 2023-2024 Communications Strategy			
Goal	Timing	Detail	Who
Public Relations (PRINT & Online) – Timely, newsworthy information regarding LBG/stakeholder activities shared by local, regional, and wider print and online publications	July 2023 – June 2024	Proposed media releases to be regularly created and submitted to local and other print and online publications, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dardanup Times - Preston Press - Boyanup Post - Gelorup Gazette - Farm Weekly - WA Local Government Assoc Enviro News 	Communications Officer with input from LBG team
Public Relations (RADIO) Newsworthy information presented by interview of LBG Team member	July 2023 – June 2024	Provide content to radio stations to promote value of interview with LBG to raise awareness of RBGs & LBGs responsibilities and value to local communities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ABC Southwest Radio - Donnybrook Balingup Community Radio - Bunbury Community Radio 	Communications Officer with input support by LBG team & board
Monthly E-Newsletter	July 2023– June 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distribution of monthly e-newsletter - New members are automatically subscribed - Visitors to website can self-subscribe” to e-newsletter - Digital Communication channels provide for timely, cost-effective to share information 	Communications Officer with input from all LBG team
Face to Face Engagement	Aug 2023 – April 2024	Seek and create opportunities for face-to-face interaction with stakeholders, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Local Community Markets & Other Events - LBG Workshops (varied Pest Management Focus) - Peer Organisations Workshops/Forums - Other as applicable 	LBG Staff, Board Members & Volunteers
Weeds Identification & Control Workshops	July 2023 – June 2024	Coordinate with Environmental Officers at local councils and other stakeholders for weed identification priorities. Local Councils include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -City of Bunbury -Shire of Donnybrook Balingup -Shire of Capel -Shire of Dardanup 	LBG Staff
Social Media including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Facebook -Instagram -LinkedIn 	July 2023 – June 2024	Content will be based on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Current Projects -DPIRD Campaigns -Seasons (Weed Calendar) 	Promote and facilitate engagement through social media



Leschenault

BIOSECURITY GROUP INC.

YOUR LAND
YOUR FUTURE

POSTAL
ADDRESS

*PO Box 185
Donnybrook WA 6239*

OFFICE
LOCATION

*18302 South Western Highway
Donnybrook WA 6239*

FIND US
ONLINE

 www.lbginc.org.au

 facebook.com/leschenault

 instagram.com/leschenaultbiosecuritygroup